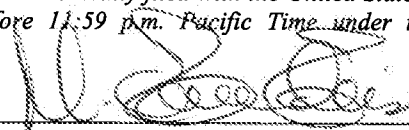


PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

*I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on July 13, 2009 at or before 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time under the Rules of 37 CFR § 1.8.*

  
M. Ena Ellis

Appl No. : 10/660,453 Confirmation No. 4926  
Applicant : Lutz Biedermann, et al.  
Filed : September 11, 2003  
Title : SPACE KEEPER FOR VERTEBRAE OR INTERVERTEBRAL DISKS  
  
TC/A.U. : 3738  
Examiner : David H. Willse  
  
Docket No. : 58780/B884  
Customer No. : 23363

**AMENDMENT WITH AN RCE**

**Mail Stop RCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068  
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068  
July 13, 2009

Commissioner:

In response to the Office action of February 13, 2009, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.